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BUILDING STATISTICS, TASMANIA -- MARCH QUARTER, 1951.

The Deputy Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. J. C. Stephen), has made available the following particulars of New Building Statistics for the quarter ended 31st March, 1951, together with comparable data for preceding periods.

1. DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED.

A statement of definitions of terms used will be found on page 10.

2. SUMMARY FOR QUARTER ENDED 31 ST MARCH, 1951.

Building statistics for Tasmania for March quarter, 1951, are summarized in the following tables. The figures indicate a continuation of the improvement in building results achieved, which has been a feature in preceding quarters.

A. - CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BUILDINGS, TASMANIA - MARCH QUARTER, 1951.

| TIES OCTIVITION TOTAL OF THEM | DOTTIDITA | TO, LAND | J.C. J. V. A. L. | MAILOII | & OTTE TITE | , 1))10 | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Description of Building | Commenced dur- ing March Quarter, 1951 | | Completed dur- ing March Quarter, 1951 | | Under Con- struction at 31 March,1951 | | Value of work done | |
| and Constructing Agency | No. of Bldgs. | Value (a) | No. of Bldgs. | Value (a) | No. of Bldgs. | Value (a) | during March Qr. 1951 | |
| 1. Houses (b), (i) Pte. Contractors | | £'000 | | £'000 | | £'000 | £ ' 000 | |
| On Pie. A/c. On Gov. A/c. (ii) Gov. Day Tabour (iii) Owner-Builders | 268 190 137 436 | 603 342 184 763 | 330 163 106 367 | 692 270 144 624 | 813 495 386 1,818 | 1,780 920 634 3,051 | 616 267 163 817 | |
| Total Houses | 1,031 | 1,892 | 966 | 1,730 | 3,512 | 6,385 | 1,863 | |
| 2. Flats (c). (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. | 9 | 13 | 5 | 7 | 19 | 36 | 9 | |
| 3. Shops with Dwellings (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. | 5 | 14 | 5 | 23 | 16 | 42 | 8 | |
| 4. Shops w/out Dwellings (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. | 12 | 25 | 9 | 11 | 28 | 104 | 29 | |
| 5. Hotels, Guest Houses etc. (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. On Gov. A/c. | 2 | 15 | 1 | 4- | 7 4 | 141 169 | 22 13 | |
| 6. Factories - (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. On Gov. A/c. | 6 2 | 52 14 | 13 | 42 | 28 | 1,318 | 167 19 | |
| 7. Other New Buildings (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. | 30 | | 10 | 400 | CENSUS 6 | 912 | | |
| On Gov. A/c. (ii) Govt. Day Labour | 32 78 6 | 198 389 9 | 19 61 - | 120 131 | 73 104 21 | 682 1,689 324 | 109 100 22 | |
| Total Other New Buildings | 152 | 729 | 114 | 341 | 306 | 4,626 | 498 | |
| All New Buildings. (i) Pte. Contractors On Pte. A/c. On Gov. A/c. (ii) Govt. Day Labour (iii) Owner-Builders | 334 270 143 436 | 920 745 193 763 | - 382 225 106 367 | 899 404 144 624 | 984 609 407 1,818 | 4,103 2,899 958 3,051 | 960 399 185 817 | |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1,183 | 2,621 | 1,080 | | | 11,011 | 2,361 | |
| | | | | | | | | |

⁽a) When completed. (b) Converted military huts not included.

⁽c) Number indicates number of individual flats provided as new dwellings.

B. - PERSONS ACTUALLY WORKING ON JOBS CARRIED OUT BY BUILDERS OF NEW BUILDINGS IN TASMANIA AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1951.

| Grade of Occupation | No. | Type of Occupation | No. | Work Engaged On | No. |
|--|-----------------------|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| Contractors Sub-Contractors Wage Earners | 1,130 614 5,213 | Carpenters Bricklayers Painters Electricians Plumbers Builders' Iabourers Others | 3,371 475 420 215 289 1,469 718 | New Buildings - Houses Other New Buildings Additions & Alterations (b) - Houses Other Buildings Repairs & Maintenance (b) | 4,482 1,706 188 262 319 |
| Total | 6,957 | Total | 6,957 | Total | 6,957 |

(a) Includes estimate for persons working on owner-built jobs.

(b) Excludes principals and their employees engaged solely on alterations, additions and maintenance work.

Further elaboration of the above statistics together with comparisons with preceding periods are set out in the following sections of this report.

3. NEW HOUSES.

Note: In the following statistics the term 'houses' includes owner-built houses, but not converted military huts, flats and shop dwellings. Values exclude the cost of land on which the structures are erected.

(1) NEW HOUSES COMPLETED:

During the quarter ended 31st March, 1951, a total of 966 new houses was completed in Tasmania. This represents an increase of 96 compared with the December quarter 1950, and is the highest number of completions recorded for any quarter since the war except September quarter, 1950.

The numbers completed during the March quarter in preceding years were 772 in 1950, 589 in 1949, 383 in 1948, 270 in 1947 and 119 in 1946. In the post-war period (September quarter, 1945, to March quarter, 1951), a total of 11,106 new houses has been completed in the State.

In addition to houses, 5 new dwellings were provided during the quarter by construction of new flats and 5 by construction of shops with dwellings.

The 966 houses completed during the March quarter, 1951, comprised 154 solid brick, concrete etc., 103 brick, concrete etc. veneer, 487 wood, 171 prefabricated wood, 46 fibro-cement and 5 other types of houses. Of the total 11,106 houses completed since September quarter, 1945, 2,729 or 24.6% were of brick, concrete etc. construction and 8,377 or 75.4% of wood, etc. materials. For March quarter, 1951, 257 or 26.6% of the total number of houses completed were of brick etc., and 709 or 73.4% of wood etc. materials.

The average recorded value of each house completed in Tasmania has risen at the following rate viz. £983 in March quarter, 1946, £1,037 in March quarter, 1947, £1,175 in March quarter, 1948, £1,316 in March quarter, 1949, £1,460 in March quarter, 1950, and £1,791 in March quarter, 1951. For March quarter, 1951, the average completed value of each brick, concrete etc. house was £2,467 compared with £1,570 for each wood house and £1,235 for each fibro-cement etc. house. The corresponding average values for March quarter, 1950, were brick etc. £1,990, wood £1,309 and fibro-cement etc. £867. Since 1945-46, the average completed cost has risen 97% per brick etc. house and 83% per wood house.

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CONSTRUCTION OF DWELLINGS ACCORDING TO TYPE, TASMANIA.

| | | Private | Houses | New | Shops | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| PERIOD | Brick Concrete etc.(a) | Wood | Fibro- cement | Other | Flats (Dwelling units)(b) | with Dwellings | Total | | |
| Dwellings Completed - No. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1945 - 46 1946 - 47 1947 - 48 1948 - 49 | 111 296 373 534 | 356 756 1,127 1,606 | 12 14 41 140 | - 4 3 7 | - 21 4 25 | 2 8 8 28 | 481 1,099 1,556 2,340 | | |
| 1949-50, Sept. Qr. Dec. Qr. March Qr. June Qr. | 160 155 200 207 | 431 447 527 550 | 29 50 41 45 | 3 4 3 | 16 2 1 5 | 2 4 6 | 638 661 779 816 | | |
| Year 1949-50 | 722 | 1,955 | 165 | 10 | 24 | 18 | 2,894 | | |
| 1950-51, Sept. Qr. Dec. Qr. March Qr. | 233 203 257 | 748 627 658 | 56 40 46 | 1 - 5 | 5 3 5 | 8 3 5 | 1,051 876 976 | | |
| TOTAL SINCE 1/7/1945 | 2,729 | 7,833 | 514 | 30 | 87 | 80 | 11,273 | | |
| Dwelling under Construction - No. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 - 31st March 1951,- 31st March | 1,047 1,102 | 1,939 2,221 | 153 188 | 9 1 | 21 19 | 12 16 | 3,181 3,547 | | |
| (a) Includes | Veneers. | I | (b) | Convers | ions into Fla | ats are exc | | | |

In the next table the types of new houses completed and under construction are shown as percentages of the total number of new houses, and the average costs of each completed new house according to type for the periods shown.

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION & AVERAGE RECORDED COST OF EACH TYPE OF NEW HOUSE, TASMANIA.

| (a) 1945-46 23.2 1946-47 27.7 1947-48 1948-49 1949-50 25.3 1950, March Qr. June Qr. Sept. Qr. Dec. Qr. 23.3 | Percentage Completed . | | | e Distribution Under Construction at end of period | | | Average recorded cost per New House completed (c) | | |
|--|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| | Brick (a) | Wood | Fibro etc (b) | Brick (a) | Wood. | Fibro etc (b) | Brick (a) | Wood | Fibro etc (b) |
| 1946-47 1947-48 1948-49 | % 23.2 27.7 24.2 23.4 25.3 | % 74•3 70•6 73•0 70•2 68•6 | % 2.5 1.7 2.8 6.4 6.1 | % 29•7 30•4 30•6 33•5 33•5 | % 68.9 68.0 65.6 61.3 61.6 | % 1.4 1.6 3.8 5.2 4.9 | £ 1,252 1,392 1,582 1,830 2,012 | £ 857 939 988 1,183 1,315 | £ 750 833 841 782 926 |
| June Qr. Sept. Qr. Dec. Qr. | 25.9 25.7 22.4 23.3 26.6 | 68.3 68.3 72.1 72.1 68.1 | 5.8 6.0 5.5 4.6 5.3 | 33. 3 33. 5 31. 7 30. 8 31. 4 | 61.6 61.6 63.9 63.9 | 5.1 4.9 4.4 5.3 5.4 | 1,990 2,082 2,155 2,379 2,467 | 1,309 1,360 1,424 1,541 1,570 | 867 896 789 900 1,235 |

- (a) Includes Stone, Concrete and Veneers.
- (b) Fibro-Cement and Other.
- (c) Average cost is obtained by dividing total number of houses completed into the total value of houses as stated by builders. As averages, they relate to houses of the size and standard completed in the relevant period, and cannot be regarded as an index of the cost of erecting houses of a particular size or standard.